

Marines from Aviation Life Support Systems, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-36, take safety to heart to make sure pilots, aircrew and passengers stay alive during life threatening situations. See page 14 for more.



January 19, 2001

Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan

www.okinawa.usmc.mil

INSIDE

NEWS

National holiday honors Martin Luther King Jr.

Third Monday in January set aside by Congress to remember the life and death of the slain civil rights leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner.

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NEWS

Base officials crack down on government vehicle use

Marines here can expect stricter enforcement on government vehicle regulations as officials look to prevent common violations as rising fuel costs become a growing concern.

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FEATURE

Safety Fair promotes ORM training to reduce mishaps

The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing holds three-day "Back-In-The-Saddle" fair to help the unit address and learn about safety awareness issues in an effort to meet goal of reducing mishaps by 25 percent.

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COMMUNITY

USNH intern program brings community closer

Japanese Intern Program at U.S. Naval Hospital, Okinawa, offers Okinawan doctors the chance to learn Western medical practices and culture while assisting in the treatment of service members.

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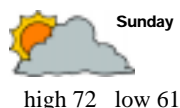
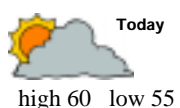
LEISURE

California girl quartet brings music to Okinawa

Up and coming pop group, "Epic Voices" brings music to service members stationed here as they complete a two-month tour of Okinawa and move one step closer in their quest for stardom.

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FORECAST



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New AAV nears completion



OFFICIAL USMC PHOTO

The AAV, which is scheduled to hit the Fleet Marine Forces in 2006, will feature new additions such as increased speed and armor.

Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicle moves into next phase of development

MARINE CORPS NEWS

HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS, Washington D.C. — The Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicle reached a new milestone when it was recently approved by the Defense Acquisition Board to move into its next phase of development, Engineering and Manufacture Development.

The first full AAV company is projected to hit the Fleet Marine Force in fiscal year 2006.

The AAV will boast numerous improvements and advancements such as an estimated water speed in excess of 20 knots, which is more than three times faster than the current AAV.

It will also have nearly twice the armor protection of the current AAV and the ability to defeat future threat light armored vehicles.

The AAV's land mobility will be

equal to or greater than the M1A1 tank with an estimated speed of 45 mph and will feature effective command and control with subordinate, adjacent, and higher units and Nuclear Biological Chemical protection for both the crew and embarked personnel.

The AAV was designed by General Dynamics to carry 18 combat-equipped Marines with an effective sea range of 65 miles.

During E&MD, extensive reliability and live fire testing will be undertaken.

This phase also incorporates design changes into the AAV that reduce its unit cost prior to production.

In the 1980s, the Navy and Marine Corps developed the concept of Over-The-Horizon amphibious operations to avoid enemy strengths, exploit enemy

weaknesses, and protect Navy ships from increased land-based missile threats and sea-based mine threats.

The AAV along with the MV-22 Osprey tilt rotor aircraft and the Landing Craft Air Cushion form the "Amphibious Triad" designed to provide true expeditionary maneuver warfare capability.

As a ground-up new design by and for Marines, it provides a modern, integrated platform capable of operations across the full spectrum of future Military operations in accordance with emerging Marine Corps concepts and doctrine.

"The Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicle will remain a keystone capability in support of the Corps' vision of warfighting in the 21st century," said General James L. Jones, Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Report traffic violations at 645-7441/7442

MLK

A nation remembers the life and death of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

RUDI WILLIAMS
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Monday, Jan. 15, 2001, marked the nation's 15th observance of the legal holiday honoring slain civil rights leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner Martin Luther King Jr.

King was born Jan. 15, 1929. Legislation creating the holiday in his honor named the third Monday of January as the day on which it is observed.

Legislators created the holiday in 1985 to serve as a time for Americans to reflect on the principles of racial equality and nonviolent social change espoused by King. King's widow, Coretta Scott King, served as chair of the federal commission planning the first nine-day observance of the holiday the following year.

"For the first time in the history of this great nation, we're honoring a peacemaker, a messenger of nonviolence — a drum major for justice, love and righteousness who was a native son of America," she said. "Where others preached hatred, he taught the principles of love, nonviolence and a patriotic commitment to making democracy work for all Americans."

"Martin's day, therefore, should be a time for peace and nonviolence in all our human relationships and in every aspect of our personal lives ... a day when all of us put aside our differences and join in a spirit of togetherness in recognition of our common humanity."

Born in Atlanta, King skipped the ninth and 12th grades and studied at Morehouse College in Atlanta at age 15. While still an undergraduate student, he was ordained a minister and was elected assistant pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church at age 18.

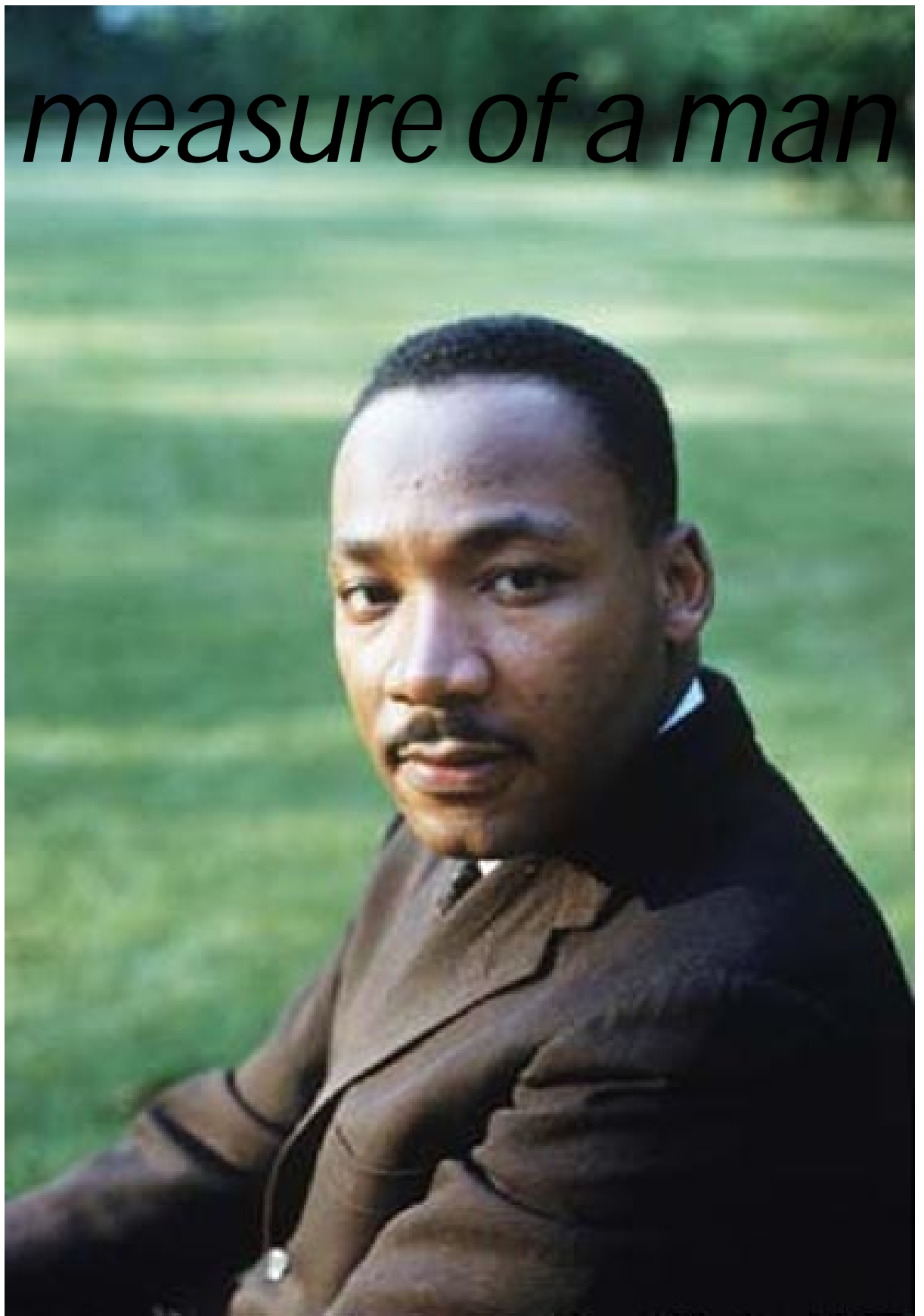
He received a bachelor's degree in sociology from Morehouse at 19, a bachelor of divinity degree from Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa., at 21, and a doctorate in systematic theology from Boston University at 25. King also studied at the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard University.

King once described the life of the black American as "sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination." In some cities, blacks were forced to sit in the back of public buses and even had to give up their seats to whites. But in December 1955, a black seamstress took a seat in the front of the bus in Montgomery, Ala., and helped to change the face of the American landscape.

Told to get up so a white person could sit down, Rosa Parks refused, defying the city's segregated transportation ordinance. She was arrested. The incident spurred King, then the new pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, and other blacks to organize a boycott of the bus company.

The boycott succeeded, gaining widespread public attention and serving as a model for many other similar actions by civil rights activists around the country. The civil rights movement had begun. Within six months, the courts had decreed state and local laws enforcing the segregation of public transportation were unconstitutional.

In the ensuing years, King made equal rights his life's work. Using his own assets and nonviolent tactics, he organized hundreds of boycotts,



Martin Luther King at the Southern Christian Leadership Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, 1960.

HOWARD SOCHUREK/LIFE

rallies and marches across the United States, becoming a pivotal civil rights figure.

He was often beaten, imprisoned and maligned, but he never stopped teaching or practicing nonviolence.

King was arrested 30 times for participating in civil rights activities. One of those times, while in solitary confinement, King wrote the "Letter from Birmingham Jail" in the margins of a newspaper and on scraps of paper. He refuted several influential critics who had condemned his work as "unworthy of a man of God." King wrote he had come to bring the gospel far beyond his own home.

"We have waited for 340 years for our constitutional rights and God-given rights, and we still creep at horse-and-buggy pace toward the gaining of a cup of coffee at a lunch counter," King wrote.

On Aug. 28, 1963, men and women of all races, religions and political backgrounds participated in a March for Jobs and Freedom in Washington. King delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech to a throng of more than 250,000 people that day at the Lincoln Memorial.

King called the huge gathering a "nonviolent army." The march succeeded far beyond the greatest expectations of its planners in transcending political quarrels of the time, bridging differences between competing groups of Americans and speaking to the conscience of the nation. It succeeded, according to its organizers, because it embraced the most enduring and basic American values — equality and justice for all.

In 1964, at age 35, King became the youngest man in history and the third black man to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Four years later, he went to Memphis, Tenn., to help lead sanitation workers in a protest against low wages and working conditions. He was shot and killed there April 4, 1968, while standing on his motel balcony.

King wrote six books: "*Stride Toward Freedom*," "*The Measure of a Man*," "*Why We Can't Wait*," "*Strength to Love*," "*Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?*" and "*The Trumpet of Conscience*."

All his works and awards are preserved in the archives of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta.

Personal use of travel benefits prohibited

Department of Defense warns employees of penalties for the misappropriation of benefits

SGT. ROBERT J. ANGUS
 COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP BUTLER — Pacific Area Counsel's Office officials here recently warned Department of Defense employees against personal use of benefits gained from official travel.

The warning comes after a Senior Executive Service official in Washington D.C. was prosecuted and pleaded guilty to redeeming travel benefits from his official travel for 20 tickets for personal use by himself and his family, according to Maj Carlos P. Kizzee, Deputy Director, PACO, Marine Corps Bases Japan. The official paid \$10,824 in restitution, a \$1,000 fine, and was ordered to serve 200 hours of community service. The official was decertified from the SES and immediately retired.

"Currently, under federal law, official government travelers are not authorized to use frequent flier mileage, upgrades and other travel benefits from official travel while in an unofficial travel

status," Maj Kizzee said. "There is a legislative amendment pending in Congress that would allow official travelers to use their accrued official benefits on personal travel, but that action is still a legislative proposal and therefore does not authorize official travelers to use mileage and other travel benefits received in official travel for personal travel."

While it may be possible to accrue official mileage for future unofficial use pending the passage of this legislative action, anything of value that travelers receive as a direct result of travel at the government's expense belongs to the government, according to Maj Kizzee.

"Those benefits received as a result of official travel belong to the government, and will remain so until this legislation is passed," Maj Kizzee said. "Even if the legislation is passed, it may take some time before DoD implements the changes."

Though these benefits are not authorized for personal travel, they may be used to offset the cost of future official travel.

"Some travel benefits that may be used for official purposes like upgrades for example," Maj Kizzee said. "Being bumped up from coach to business class may be accepted as long as this same benefit is generally available to the public. But you can't accept an upgrade to first class.

"There are some things to keep in mind when using upgrades," Maj Kizzee said. "Though you can accept this upgrade to business class, you can't solicit it, you can't accept it if offered due to rank or position and you can't accept it while traveling in uniform."

Another situation where travelers may be able to use benefits of official travel involves overbooked flights, according to Kizzee.

"If you are 'bumped' due to carrier overbooking, the benefit provided by the airline may or may not belong to you depending on the situation," Maj Kizzee said. "If a traveler is involuntarily bumped from a flight, all benefits belong to the government and the traveler remains on the government mission. If someone is voluntarily bumped from a flight, all benefits belong to the traveler and the traveler is on his or her own time."

"In this case, while travelers are waiting for the next available flight, no per diem is paid and the person is technically on leave," Maj Kizzee said. "Most importantly, travelers are not authorized to voluntarily be bumped if doing so affects the mission of their trip."

For more information related to the use of official travel benefits, personnel may refer to DoD Joint Ethics Regulation 5500.7R or contact the PACO at 546-3823.

Road Masters crackdown on misuse

LCPL CHAD SWAIM
 COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Marines misusing government vehicles here can be punished under the articles of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

From October to November, 90 citations were issued by the Marine Corps Base road masters, according to GySgt Bradley A. Prafke, Chief Road Master, MCB.

"The majority of the citations given were the result of Marines using government vehicles for their personal use," GySgt Prafke said.

The most common misuse of the government vehicles, are Marines driving to the exchange, the food court area and taking Marines to dental appointments, according to GySgt Prafke.

"The worst area is the Camp Foster exchange area at lunchtime," GySgt Prafke said. "Kadena is running a close second because a lot of Marines think they're being slick and go over there to hang out."

Misuse is a growing concern because of rising fuel costs. During the fiscal year of 1999, Base Motors spent \$550,000 on fuel for Garrison Mobile Equipment vehicles alone. With the recent 61 percent fuel price increase, the amount of money spent on fuel this year is estimated to be \$330,000 more.

Eliminating government vehicle personal use could save \$88,000, and lengthen vehicle life, according to Maj Danny R. Strand, Base Motor Transport Officer, MCB.

"These vehicles are intended to last a certain amount of time or miles," GySgt Prafke said. "The more personal



LCPL CHAD SWAIM
 SSgt Christopher N. Fisher, Road Master, MCB, patrols the Camp Foster exchange parking lot in search of government vehicles being misused.

miles that are put on a vehicle means less official use that we can get out of the vehicle."

He said Marines don't understand that they are subject to disciplinary action when they misuse government equipment.

"Any time they get caught doing this they're in direct violation of Marine Corps Order 11230.106b, which is punishable under the UCMJ," said GySgt Prafke.

Instead of misusing a government vehicle, Maj Strand said Marines should take one of the many buses that serve all of the bases. The buses have designated stops on every base and an on-base shuttle makes 13 stops on Camp Foster.

"We have more than 60 buses on this island," Maj Strand said. "These buses travel from camp to camp, every hour."

The commands could help by taking a look at the orders and directives and conduct training with their Marines to let them know what they shouldn't be doing, according to GySgt Prafke.

"This comes down to doing what's right," GySgt Prafke said. "It comes down to core values, doing the right thing when no one is looking."

Base safety gets Marines back in saddle for 2001

LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA
 COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Marine Corps Base safety experts are starting the new year with a special program designed to keep service members safe during the time of year when many are historically at a higher risk.

"We lose an average of about two to three Marines, Corpswide, during the period right after the holidays," said James M. Maldonado, Deputy Assistant Chief, Consolidated Safety Branch.

The program, named Back in the Saddle, is intended to help combat the depression Marines may get after the holiday season, according to Maldonado.

"Once we have our people back to work, we must ensure they're prepared to function efficiently and safely," said LtGen Frank Libutti, Commanding General, Marine Forces Pacific. "Back in the Saddle safety stand downs prior to resuming full scale operations will allow us to shake off the holiday cobwebs and focus our energy on preparing for tomorrow's challenges."

Safety programs are provided to help keep Marines safe, Maldonado said.

"Hopefully we can prevent accidents by focusing on basic safety procedures," Maldonado said.

Back in the Saddle Schedule

There will be two programs on each date, one starting at 9 a.m. and another at 1 p.m. Each will be shown at the respected base theater.

Camp Hansen	Jan. 26, 29
Camp Kinser	Jan. 22, 23
MCAS Futenma	Jan. 31
Camp Schwab	Feb. 2
Camp Foster	Jan. 24, 25
Camp Courtney	Jan. 30

"Operational Risk Management has a five step process which service members should follow."

These steps include identifying hazards, assessing the problems, making risk decisions, implementing controls and watching for changes.

Noticing hazards and recognizing problems are all part of ORM, which is necessary for service members in order for them to be focused on their jobs after returning from holidays, according to Maldonado.

"Part of the thing we try to do is to get service members to realize what they do is important, in turn this will help with their mission," Maldonado said. "One hundred percent participation is very important because by going to them you might prevent serious injury or a death," Maldonado said.

"We have a responsibility to ensure that our Marines and Sailors are educated about the risks involved with our profession," LtGen Libutti said.



GySgt Prafke

Hansen's chief baker retires

CPL MATTHEW E. HABIB
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP HANSEN — Many who frequented the III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group Messhall here had no idea Nobuo Igei, the Chief Baker, had been cooking before they were even born.

Many just saw a Japanese man wearing his "whites" in and around the messhall.

Unless they have come to know and love Igei, like those who have worked with him throughout the years, they would have no clue as to how special Igei was to the Marines here.

An "honorary Marine" in every sense of the term, Igei officially wore his "whites" for the last time Dec. 22 when he retired after more than 28 years of faithful service as a Marine Corps baker.

Despite his recent farewell, the lessons and good times he shared with his fellow Marine co-workers continue to flourish at the messhalls where he worked.

Born Dec. 23, 1940, near Kin Town in Ginoza Village, the Okinawan native has dedicated nearly half of his life to serving Marines. He joined the Marine team in 1972, after being influenced and taught how to bake by a friend who was also working as a Marine Corps baker.

Igei has formed a solid and long-lasting relationship with his Marine Corps family throughout the years.

"He's a great teacher," said LCpl Edmund D. Blackwood, Messhall Baker, Headquarters and Service Company, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group. "He always paid attention to what you were doing."

According to LCpl Blackwood, Igei will be sorely missed. In addition to his ability to inspire and train the Marines whom he worked with, the short, dark-haired and often jovial baker was revered as a true professional and quite skilled when it came to baking.

"He was super fast," said LCpl Blackwood. "I've never seen any baker move as fast as he did. He could prepare three or four dishes at once, while it would take the other bakers twice as long to do what he did."

Described as being "nice, easygoing and respectful," teaching was just one of several qualities Igei possessed. He was also viewed as a natural joker to his friends who enjoyed his quiet, almost secretive sense of humor.

"Every once in awhile when I wouldn't be expecting (anything to happen), I'd get hit in the back with something," said LCpl Blackwood. "I'd turn around, and there would be Mr. Igei preparing whatever it was he was making with a big smile."

According to LCpl Brian A. Stark, Messhall Cook, H & S Co., Igei managed to come into work, even on his days off, to help his friends by lessening the work load.

"I worked with Igei for about six months, and I'll never forget that for a couple of months there, he had gotten (ill), and was going to the doctor just about everyday," LCpl Stark said. "It turned out that he was having trouble with his heart. He would still come into work when he could and stay for a half day ... longer if he could, just to try and help us out, and because he loved his work."

Working with the Marines, however, was not always easy for Igei. Reflecting on the past relationship between the United States and Japan, Igei was uncertain how working with the Americans would be.

He said he was just a small child when the Marines invaded Okinawa during World War II. He vividly recalls the tragic turn of events which occurred following the invasion, but said he never had any doubts about working with the Marines.

"It was somewhat strange the first couple of months just because it was the American military," said Igei, with help from a Japanese translator.



CPL MATTHEW E. HABIB
Nobuo Igei, Chief Baker, III MEF HQ Group Messhall, began baking for Marines in 1972.

He then talked about his three sons: Tadashi, 35; Tagusigi, 32; and Takehisa, 27. His two older sons are getting married, and Igei gladly shared that he and Mincho, his wife of 35 years, are looking forward to attending the weddings.

Although he relishes a host of fond memories, the most memorable event for Igei was his recent retirement ceremony when Col Michael C. O'Neal, Camp Hansen Camp Commander, presented him with a certificate of commendation for his dedicated service.

Igei said he has plans to enjoy his retirement. Although he insisted that he will miss the Marine Corps greatly, he also admitted that he looks forward to enjoying an even brighter future with his family and friends.

MLC's say farewell to Marine Corps

SGT NATHAN L. HANKS JR.
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Fifty-two Master Labor Contract and Indirect Hire Agreement workers received certificates of appreciation from BGen Willie J. Williams, Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, Camp S. D. Butler, Dec. 20 during a retirement ceremony held here at the Butler Officers' Club.

"It is an honor and my great pleasure to be here today," BGen Williams said. "I'm humbled by the fact that we have 52 employees who are retiring from the Marine Corps Base, Camp Smedley D. Butler, with a combined total of outstanding service of 1,406 years and nine months."

The employees held a variety of positions such as postal, safety division, comptroller and food services.

"I am pleased to have each of you as a member of the Camp Butler civilian work force," BGen Williams said. "I know that you will be missed by many."

"On behalf of the United States Marine Corps, I extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your dedicated service, and wish you and your families continued success and good health in the years to come," BGen Williams said.

Nobuo Igei, of food services branch, Camp Hansen, has a head start on his new retired life.

"I plan to continue to farming," said Igei, who has been farming during his off time for the last 10 years. "I plan to grow more vegetables and trees."

The workers officially retired Dec. 31, 2000.

SAFETY ZONE

Seat belts save lives

PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE

For most people, driving a car is the single most dangerous thing they do. During the last decade, nearly 400,000 Americans died in motor vehicle crashes and nearly 33,000,000 were injured. The loss of life on our nation's highways far outweighs our nation's combat losses. On Okinawa, we are among these statistics. The Provost Marshal's Office would like to remind everyone on Okinawa of a few tips on driving safety.

Wearing your seat belt is the most important thing you can do to increase your chances of surviving a crash. Seat belts are the most effective safety devices in vehicles today and are estimated to save 9,500 lives each year. Accordingly, failure to wear a seat belt contributes to more fatalities than any other single traffic safety-related behavior. Seat belts serve three main purposes:

- During a crash, they allow you to slow down with the vehicle, therefore reducing the crash forces you experience.

- Seat belts keep you in your seat, which prevents you from being thrown around the inside of the vehicle. If you are the driver, they keep you behind the wheel, so you can control your vehicle after a crash.

- Seat belts keep you from being ejected from your vehicle during a crash.

Most crash fatalities result from the force of impact or from being thrown from the vehicle, not from being trapped by a seat belt. All studies prove that individuals are much more likely to survive a crash if they are buckled in, while those occupants who are ejected are four times as likely to be killed.

On Okinawa, the seat belt regulations are clear:

MCO 5100.19D and the Base Traffic Supervision Order require that everyone in a vehicle wear seat belts.

This applies both on and off base at all times.

Children of USFJ personnel are required to be fastened in an approved child restraint seat until age 4 or are over 40 pounds. Non-USFJ personnel operating a motor vehicle on DoD installations are required to comply with this regulation.

Children belong in the back seat in a properly anchored child restraint seat. It is not safe to hold your child in your arms.

Remember, you must wear your seat belt each and every time you drive, no matter how short your trip. Every hour, at least one American dies because he or she didn't buckle up. Adults who do not buckle up are sending a deadly message to children that it is all right not to wear a seat belt.

NJP REPORT

The following are alcohol-related nonjudicial punishments for Jan. 7-13.

• Underage drinking

A Private First Class with Combat Assault Battalion, 3d Marine Division, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$502 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 30 days.

A Lance Corporal with Combat Assault Battalion, 3d MarDiv, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$294 per month for one month and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

A Lance Corporal with Combat Assault Battalion, 3d MarDiv, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$585 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A Lance Corporal with 3d Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$585 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A Lance Corporal with 3d Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking and disorderly conduct. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$521 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

• Wrongfully allowing a Marine to consume alcohol underage

A Corporal with III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF was found guilty at a company-level NJP of wrongfully allowing an underage Marine to consume alcohol. Punishment: reduction to E-3, forfeiture of \$200 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 30 days.

• Drunk and disorderly

A Corporal with Marine Air Group-12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of drunk and disorderly conduct. Punishment: reduction to E-3, forfeiture of \$667 per month for two months.

COURTS MARTIAL

• A Private First Class assigned to 3d Battalion, 2d Marine Regiment, 3d Marine Division, was sentenced to 105 days confinement, forfeiture of \$600 per month for four months at a special court-martial on one specification of Article 90, willfully disobeying a superior commissioned officer.

• A Lance Corporal assigned to 3d Battalion, 2d Marine Regiment, 3d MarDiv, was sentenced to 90 days confinement, forfeiture of \$500 per month for three months, and reduction to E-1 at a special court-martial on one specification of Article 90, willfully disobeying a superior commissioned officer.

• A Corporal assigned to Combat Assault Battalion, 3d MarDiv, was sentenced to 45 days confinement and reduction to E-3 at a special court-martial on several specifications of Article 134, dishonorably failing to pay debt.

• A Petty Officer Third Class assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion-74 was sentenced to 60 days confinement and reduction to E-2 at a special court-martial on one specification of Article 90, willfully disobeying a superior commissioned officer.



LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT

A closer look

Members of the Marine Officers' Spouses Club look into a kettle full of chili during a tour of the Marine Corps Base Nutrition Center on Camp Kinser Jan. 10. The club visited the center to learn more about how the facilities provide quality food to Marines stationed on Okinawa and other facilities islandwide. "I think they do a great job providing quality food in such a short amount of time. It's amazing how they do it," said Bobbie J. Williams, Adviser, Marine Officers' Spouses Club.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Underwater photography contest

The Kadena Marina is hosting the Wet Shoot Underwater Photography Contest from Feb. 1 to March 31. This contest is open to all SOFA status personnel and offers a good opportunity to showcase participant photography skills while enjoying the waters surrounding Okinawa.

An Underwater photography professional will be on hand as well to offer a free slide show and photo clinic for contestants and, weather permitting, the Kadena Marina will offer two Kerama Boat Dive trips during the contest.

With three levels of underwater camera classes, the contest allows participants with a housed, amphibian, or point-and-shoot cameras to compete against each other in the following categories: macro, wide angle, fish and people. This will allow participants of the same skill and camera level to compete against each other.

The fee for entering the contest is \$20 and includes a contest T-shirt, up to four rolls of film, development of the film and a ticket to the Kadena Marina Wet Shoot Barbecue and awards ceremony on March 31. Contestants can enter at the Kadena Marina Dive Shop from Feb. 1-28.

For a full list of contest rules and more information, please contact the Kadena Marina at 634-6344.

Men's chapel fellowship

The Camp Foster Chapel has scheduled a Men's Fellowship for Jan. 20 at 9 a.m. The fellowship will take place in Bldg. 455, the Chapel Annex, and will consist of a potluck breakfast to be followed by a seminar led by Navy CDR Walter Brown. All men are invited to join.

For more information, call 645-7486.

Musical revue auditions

The Pacific Okinawa Players announces auditions for "A Musical Revue." Auditions will take place Feb. 3 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Kubasaki High School Band Room.

All participants are required to prepare a song to sing and bring sheet music. Cast members must be able to commit to rehearsal schedule that is the

same as the audition day.

More night rehearsals will be added as the show date nears in early May.

For more information, call 936-9144.

DRMO Cash and Carry Sale

DRMO Okinawa will be holding their Cash and Carry Retail Sale every Wednesday afternoon from noon to 2 p.m. along with the first Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon. Saturday sales may change due to holidays.

The sale is located at Bldg. 600 on Camp Kinser and is open to all SOFA status personnel.

All items must be purchased for personal use only and payment must be in U.S. dollars, cash only.

Customers who purchase items must pay for and remove them the day of the sale.

For more information, call 637-3707/2918.

Math Mania Night

E.C. Killin's Home School Partnership Committee is sponsoring a Math Mania Night Feb. 12. Math Mania Night is a family-oriented activity and all family members are encouraged to attend.

Activities scheduled for the evening will include an introduction and practical use of "hands-on" math and how to tie these to a students everyday experiences. Math manipulatives, graphs, and playing games will be offered. Activities will commence at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

For more information about the Math Mania Night contact Sunshine Tejada at 645-7760.

Kubasaki PTSA Fund-raiser

A Kubasaki fund-raiser for students will be held Feb. 3-4 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Kubasaki High School Cafeteria. Proceeds to benefit Kubasaki High School Academic and Extracurricular Programs.

For more information call 646-5949.

To submit a brief ...

Send an e-mail to editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil or fax your request to 645-3803. The Okinawa Marine accepts briefs for non-profit organizations and groups only and they are run on a space-available and time-priority basis. Deadline for submitting briefs is noon every Friday and the Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material to fit space.

A day fit for a real King



PFC DAMIAN J. MCGEE
CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

I decided to write this because it amazes me that, at the age of 21, I am still meeting people who don't know of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Many know his name. They know we get a day off work in honor of him. They know he 'had a dream.' But not many know the true extent of his accomplishments.

For many, the life of Dr. King was much more than his marches and speeches. His passions dealt with injustice and equality of all people, not just African Americans. His dream was one that encompasses every aspect of our daily lives.

Born January 15, 1929, Dr. King became disgusted with racial inequality and injustices of all kinds. An eloquent and profound speaker, Dr. King spoke against racism and discrimination.

He traveled thousands of miles in support of fair treatment and equal opportunity for all people throughout the world.

According to Dr. King, "Injustice anywhere, is a threat to justice everywhere."

During his fight for civil rights, Dr. King visited with presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson to further promote racial equality.

Inspired by the teachings of India's humanitarian and political leader Mahatma Ghandi, he even traveled to India to further study Ghandi's nonviolent approach.

In fact, it was Ghandi's passive perspectives that King valued most and credited many of his ideals.

Dr. King's nonviolent approach to civil rights was not always well received.

Consequently, Dr. King persevered through an abundance of personal humiliation and physical strife, along with his family and friends and those who followed him. Making sacrifices for what he believed in became a common occurrence.

Dr. King was assaulted many times throughout the Civil Rights Movement.

Although he conducted nonviolent protests, he and his followers were arrested repeatedly during sit-ins and peaceful demonstrations. His house was bombed. He was stabbed and shot at during his outings, and on April 4, 1968, he gave the ultimate sacrifice – his life.

Dr. King achieved several remarkable accomplishments before his untimely death. At age 15, he applied and was accepted at Morehouse College.

After graduating from Morehouse, he went on to earn other degrees to include a bachelor of divinity and a doctorate in theology.

He later became an accomplished author, and in 1964, at the age of 35, Dr. King was the youngest ever to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts in promoting world peace.

After reflecting on the many accomplishments of Dr. King's life, it's no wonder U.S. House Representative John Conyers immediately proposed to Congress the first legislation for establishing a holiday honoring Dr. King just four days after his death.

Many disagreed and fought consistently to have

the idea thrown out of Congress. The bill was continuously submitted to Congress and denied until a record-setting petition with six million signatures was presented.

Throughout the period the bill was proposed, thousands were personally punished for unofficially observing Dr. King's birthday. Many even lost their jobs.

In conjunction with this and years of congressional battles, Dr. King's birthday was finally celebrated 18 years after it was first proposed.

By this time, you may be asking what is my point. If this is the case, I would simply say think about these facts. Dr. King is the only American to have a federal holiday specifically named in his honor.

First celebrated in 1986, Martin Luther King Day is one of only three holidays to be approved in the 20th century. The other two holidays are Veterans Day in 1926 and Memorial Day in 1948.

With all of these things to consider, it is important that we realize that because of Dr. King, every race can take this day to rejoice and enjoy one another's company.

His efforts and sacrifices have also made it possible for you and I to walk into any restaurant with a person of a different race, color, or creed and be treated equally.

Am I saying that he was the only one fighting for equal rights? Of course not! What I am saying is that we need to realize that the significance of this holiday should be more than just time off work.

Instead, it's a day to value the unlimited relationships we have the opportunity on which to build.

What Would You Do?

The following examination of leadership issues is not intended to present right or wrong answers. The goal is to provide a forum to encourage leadership discussions of challenging issues. Chaplain responses are designed to provide moral and ethical guidance. Questions, comments or ideas for a future scenario may be submitted to: editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

Confronting alcohol abuse

You and your roommate are both corporals and have been on Okinawa for over six months. You consider him your best friend.

Both of you enjoy hitting the clubs on weekends and you both drink. There has been many a night that you have come home together. Recently though you have noticed him drinking more than usual when you go out. It has gotten to the point where you have had to take him back to the BEQ by 9:30 p.m. because he is so intoxicated.

When you ask him about it he just laughs it off. You realize that he isn't in control of drinking, but you know that he won't want to go and see anyone about his problem. You try talking to him a couple more times about it and he gets angry with you. You even try suggesting weekend plans that don't have anything to do with alcohol, but he quickly dismisses them.

For the last week he has been drinking to get intoxicated during the work week. Although his drinking isn't affecting his work performance, yet, and no one else seems to think he has a problem, you are worried about him. What do you do?

What the Marines said

Lance corporal with MCB: I would tell our staff sergeant because I think he has a problem and it needs to be fixed.

Corporal with 3d FSSG: I would talk to him again and confront him on the situation. Even though it doesn't affect his work, it is still bad.

Private first class with 3d MarDiv: I would go and ask the advice from our SACO [Substance Abuse Counseling Officer] and see what he thinks I should do, but I wouldn't give his name because I don't want him to get in trouble.

What the Chaplain said

You sound like the only one who is close enough to see what is going on in your friend's life right now, because in my experience, it is only a matter of time before every area of his life will be negatively affected by alcohol abuse.

I would suggest that you talk to your friend again and see if there is some other issue in his life that is causing him "discomfort". It looks like he is trying to cover some pain with the alcohol. Let him know that his drinking is jeopardizing your relationship, and that for his own good, you are going to continue to encourage him to seek qualified assistance/counseling.

Whatever else you do, never give up on your friend – he needs you now more than ever, and don't let him go out alone as long as he has this tendency to over indulge.

- Navy LT Doran T. Kelvington, Chaplain, H&S Bn., MCB



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REACHING

out to promote

SAFETY

1st MAW Marines, Sailors conduct Back-in-the-Saddle Safety Fair, Operational Risk Management Training to reduce mishaps in 2001

SGT. ROBERT J. ANGUS
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP BUTLER — The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing held a three-day Back-in-the-Saddle Safety Fair here Jan. 3-5 to provide training and help the unit achieve its goal of 25 percent reduction in all mishap rates during 2001.

"Headquarters Marine Corps has mandated that units conduct Back-in-the-Saddle safety briefs following holiday periods as part of the Operational Risk Management training," said LtCol James R. Wallace, Assistant Chief of Staff, 1st MAW Safety Office. "And we also wanted to get a feel for where our personnel stood on understanding fundamental safety concerns."

To accomplish this, approximately 3,000 Marines and Sailors were cycled through 14 different safety-oriented booths that addressed everything from heat and cold stress to safe driving. Each display gave an 8- to 10-minute presentation on its topic,

according to Navy LT Bret J. Moscon, Industrial Hygiene Officer, 1st MAW Safety Office.

"By analyzing the safety mishaps and injuries within 1st MAW for the last year, we identified topics we needed to address," LtCol Wallace said. "Each booth addressed one of these topics and we hope to reduce the mishap traits in these areas."

Following the presentations, participants were tested on the information given, according to LtCol Wallace.

"Everyone was given a written test to see if they understand the fundamentals of safety," LtCol Wallace said. "From the test results, we've earmarked a few units that we feel need additional training."

On the final day of the Safety Fair, each unit provided a five-person team to participate in an ORM competition, according to LT Moscon. These teams competed in three events — a written multiple-choice exam, a group ORM scenario and a field meet.

"This competition is a new and in-

novative way to get the safety information out there while having a little fun," LtCol Wallace said.

The best part of the competition, participants said, was the field meet where the teams were required to take an egg through a series of obstacles safely by applying ORM principles.

"This was not what I expected," said LCpl Jessica S. Pierce, Air Support Operator, Marine Aviation Support Squadron-2. "Taking the egg through the obstacle course was fun and challenging. It wasn't your typical boring training brief."

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-262's team took first place, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-36 took second and Personnel Service Detachment-17 came in third.

"The competition was demanding, challenging and fun," said GySgt James F. Lewellyn, a member of the HMM-262 team from Maintenance Control. "It required a total-team effort and applied the ORM process."

Navy LT Ma
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Sgt Teneka Graves, Training NCO, MWSG-17, watches CWO2 Jeffrey S. Peay, Embark Officer, MWSG-17, as he holds tight to the ladder and passes the team's egg off to a reaching GySgt Jason W. Dunn, Safety Engineer Coordinator, MWSG-17, during 1st MAW's Back-in-the-Saddle Safety Fair ORM competition Jan. 5 behind the Foster Field House.



LCpl Christina L. Favours, Air Support Operator, MASS-2, begins the first obstacle in the ORM field meet. Teams had to negotiate obstacles keeping their eggs intact by applying ORM principles. They had to assess the risk of each obstacle and judge if it was worth the risk for the points they would receive.



As teams negotiated the obstacle course, they were not allowed to touch the egg with their hands. All they could use were spoons. If the eggs were touched with hands, it was considered broken. Two broken eggs and the team was finished.



Matthew W. Hebert, Air Medical Safety Officer, 1st MAW, waits for the next team to attempt his obstacle. LT Hebert is responsible for the breaking of many teams' eggs during the competition field meet behind the Foster Field House.



Navy LT Matthew W. Hebert, Air Medical Safety Officer, 1st MAW Safety Office, tries to shoot MWSG-17 team's egg off the spoon held by GySgt Jason W. Dunn, Safety Environmental Coordinator, MWSG-17, while Capt Chuck Valence, Plans Officer, MWSG-17, explains the obstacle to him.

LCpl Jason Bonner (left) and LCpl Troy Lorensen, both Mechanics, Motor Transport Section, Maintenance Detachment, MSSG-31, 3d FSSG, work together to mount a tire onto a Logistics Vehicle System.



Maintenance mechanics keep Marines

On the move

LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP KINSER — The nonstop turning of wrenches and screwdrivers to fix brakes, engines and transmissions, is all in a day's work to keep vehicles on the road and ready for anything.

Marines from the Motor Transport Section, Maintenance Detachment, Marine Expeditionary Unit Service Support Group-31, 3d Force Service Support Group, do just that.

Working long hours to perform 2d and 3d echelon repairs on 5-ton trucks, Logistics Vehicle Systems and humvees is nothing new to this team of mechanics.

"Our job is to make sure that all the MEU's vehicles are ready to deploy at any given time and sometimes that means working extremely long hours and even weekends," said Sgt Richard M. Sunyak, Shop Chief, Motor Transport Section, Maintenance Detachment, MSSG-31, 3d FSSG.

The Marines' long hours are sometimes necessary, especially when they prepare for deployments.

"When deployments start coming near, we sometimes have to start working around the clock with day and night crews to make sure the vehicles are good to go before they go on ship,"



LCpl Jason Bonner, Mechanic, Motor Transport Maintenance Detachment, MSSG-31, 3d FSSG, loosens the brake chamber on a Logistics Vehicle System.

Sgt Sunyak said.

Marines during the deployment also go along with the vehicles on ship to conduct maintenance.

"Since our first priority is the 31st MEU, we deploy with the MEU to make sure the vehicles' maintenance are maintained throughout all exercises," Sgt Sunyak said.

Working on ship and in the field, Marines from Maintenance Detachment have to be very proficient at what they do to be able to overcome chal-

lenging conditions.

"We have to perform maintenance no matter what," Sgt Sunyak said. "If there is a problem with a vehicle, we have to fix it."

Even though the Marines from Maintenance Detachment face tight working quarters and the occasional vehicle broken down in the middle of the jungle, the unit must maintain their operational pace, according to Sgt Sunyak.

"Conditions aren't always ideal for us, but we work hard to make sure that our job gets done," said LCpl Troy Lorensen, Mechanic, Motor Transport Section, Maintenance Detachment, MSSG-31, 3d FSSG.

Working hard and challenging conditions only make these Marines better at what they do.

"I learned almost everything I know by getting out in real-life experiences and getting the job done. I know the best way my Marines will learn to do their job, is to get in the grease, get dirty and just do it," Sgt Sunyak said.

In the Maintenance Detachment, these Marines will never have to worry about not being able to do what they have learned.

"With all the knowledge I have learned while being here, I am able to run my own maintenance shop in the future," said Cpl Joey Arnold, Mechanic, Motor Transport Section, Maintenance Detachment, MSSG-31, 3d FSSG.

PHOTOS BY LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT



PFC Colby S. Milward, Aviation Equipment Technician, ALSS, MALS-36, MAG-36, 1st MAW, threads parachute cords through the pack.

PHOTOS BY LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT

Working to save lives

LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA — When the unthinkable happens and safety equipment is needed at a moment's notice, the last thing on a person's mind is a safety check.

The Marines from Aviation Life Support Systems, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-36, Marine Aircraft Group-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, take their safety inspection to heart to make sure that pilots, aircrew and passengers stay alive during life threatening situations.

"Our job is very important because many lives depend on it," said Sgt Ron R. Coates, Collateral Duty Quality Assurance Representative, ALSS, MALS-36, MAG-36, 1st MAW.

The ALSS shop is responsible for inspecting all parachutes, life rafts, life preservers and oxygen regulators for fixed and rotary wing Marine aircraft islandwide. This includes all permanent stationed squadrons and squadrons on the Unit Deployment Program.

All testing and inspections occur on a calendar inspection.

"Everything we do here is scheduled maintenance," said SSgt Jessie B. Hook, Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, ALSS. "The inspections are determined by the aircrafts' schedules."

Aviation Logistics Support Systems also does minor repairs to their equipment.

"We are limited to doing only small repairs, so anything big will go to a civilian repair shop in the States," SSgt Hook said.

When doing their work, Marines from ALSS have to be very meticulous when dealing with the life saving gear.

"Everything is inspected thoroughly because we are unable to do function testing before the equipment is placed on the aircraft," SSgt Hook said. "Attention to detail is very important in this job."

Because the equipment that these Marines inspect and repair cannot be function tested, safety is the most important thing.

"Safety is very crucial, that is why we have to follow our manuals very carefully," SSgt Hook said.

Along with following their manuals step by step, the ALSS Marines also have to inventory all tools before and after any job they do, according to SSgt Hook.

"We have to make sure that the tools that we use are not accidentally packed away in any gear, like a parachute," SSgt Hook said.

For an extra safety precaution, both the Marine that did the work and the CDQAR must sign off all equipment that

is inspected or repaired.

These Marines are not limited to the confines of their workplace, but also deploy to assist the Marines away from Okinawa.

"We support the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit and all deployments for MALS-36," SSgt Hook said. "We usually send two Marines to support the deployed squadron."

When the Marines from ALSS go on ship, they must take with them, 10 percent of the gear that is going to be use for all the aircrafts that they will support.

"If the deployed squadron has 10 aircraft with two life rafts on each, we must have two life rafts with us at all times," SSgt Hook said.

The ALSS Marines must do this because they work on a "pull" system. When a squadron needs inspections done or repairs made, they give the equipment to ALSS and ALSS gives them equipment to use until the inspection or repairs are done.

These Marines' jobs are exacting and they work on schedules and out of manuals, and definitely feel that they play an important part of the Marine Corps.

"We appreciate our jobs because we really feel that lives are in our hands," said LCpl Douglas G. Goulding, Aviation Equipment Technician, ALSS, MALS-36, MAG-36, 1st MAW.



LCpl Douglas G. Goulding, Aviation Equipment Technician, ALSS, MALS-36, MAG-36, 1st MAW, bleeds the extra CO2 gas from the line after filling CO2 tanks.



LCpl Douglas G. Goulding, Aviation Equipment Technician, ALSS, MALS-36, MAG-36, 1st MAW, prepares to fill a tank with CO2.

Dr. Akira Fujiyoshi, Japanese Intern, takes a look at Seaman Apprentice Timothy D. Plemmons, Corpsman, USNH, during a recent exam.



PHOTOS BY SGT ROBERT J. ANGUS

Intern program at USNH, helps community close

Gap between East, West

SGT. ROBERT J. ANGUS
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP LESTER — A group of Japanese doctors are benefiting from a special program here that provides both cultural and professional exchanges.

Six doctors are learning Western medicine practices while assisting in the treatment of service members through the Japanese Intern Program at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Okinawa.

"The program was created more than a decade ago to help foster better communication and understanding between the two medical communities,"

said Navy LCDR Robert E. Burke, Director, Department of Internal Medical and Japanese Intern Program, USNH. "We show them how we practice Western medicine and we get a better understanding of how the Japanese medical community works."



LCDR Burke

The year-long program, which is open to both experienced Japanese doctors and those who just finished medical school, has a curriculum with six key areas, according to LCDR Burke.

The interns work in six different wards: general and internal medicine, family practice, pediatrics, general surgery, psychiatry and emergency treatment, LCDR Burke said.

"We focus on these areas, but other electives are available to the interns depending on what their interest is," LCDR Burke said. "For example, we currently have an intern who is interested in geriatrics, or the care of the elderly."

As the interns circulate through the hospital, one of the biggest lessons learned is the relationship between patients and doctors, according to LCDR Burke.

"Because of the way our medical system is set up, Japanese patients seek out well-known doctors," said Mitsumasa Kishimoto, Japanese intern and 1998 graduate of Kitasata University in mainland Japan. "And when they go to the doctor they don't question the doctor's diagnosis or treatment. They don't want a full description of what's wrong or what the treatment will do to cure their illness. They don't

ask what the medications they may receive are for or why they are taking them.

"American patients, on the other hand, want to know everything," Kishimoto said. "And many times have looked up on the Internet what is wrong with them and discuss it with us. They want to know what medications they are taking and what they will do for them. It's a big difference."

Learning the doctor-patient-relationship will help doctors when they come in contact with Western patients in the future, according to LCDR Burke.

While learning the doctor-patient relationship, the interns also learn another Western practice of standardized treatments that are not taught in their medical schools and are experience-based for Japanese, according to Akira Fujiyoshi, chief intern and 1992 graduate of Okayama University in mainland Japan.

"Eastern medicine doesn't have standard methods of treatment for things like heart attacks," Fujiyoshi said. "American doctors are taught specific steps and procedures they need to do to treat a heart attack victim. They know what to do and what order to do it in. Japanese doctors don't have this and learn how to treat patients like this from experience. I'm doing a lot of studying of these standards because they are very helpful."

The intern program here also benefits Japanese doctors by helping them to get accepted in to a residency program in the United States.

"There is a huge growing trend in the States and in Europe in the area I want to explore and specialize in," said Fujiyoshi, who wants to specialize in health promotion and prevention. "Learning directly from American doctors here is very important to get into the States to accomplish what I want. It's not only improving my medical skills, but also my language skills. It's sometimes frustrating when talking to patients here. When they are sick, they tend to speak more faintly or in slang that I have difficulty understanding. It's showing me where I need to improve before going to America."

"Not only is this program a learning experience for the interns, the military doctors are learning from it as well," LCDR Burke said.

"Before I came to Okinawa, I knew nothing about how the Japanese medical system worked," LCDR



Dr. Tetsuji Yoneyama, Japanese Intern, applies a bandage to an emergency room patient at the USNH, Jan. 12. Japanese interns work at the hospital for one year and learn Western medicine practices.

Burke said. "I have learned a great deal about their system and I know it will help me if I have to deal with them in the future."

Interns here also help by translating for military dependents or other patients who don't speak English, LCDR Burke said.

"They have been very helpful in treating patients who don't speak English," LCDR Burke said. "It's very tough to treat someone when you can't understand what their symptoms are."

As the six interns continue their year of learning, they have all been impressed with the way the hospital's staff conducts business, Fujiyoshi said.

"The staff and doctors here are very professional," Fujiyoshi said. "For example, no matter how upset or difficult a patient may be in the emergency room, they never yell or get angry with patients. Japanese doctors are sometimes known for producing unnecessary conflict with their patients. I am very impressed with the way the doctors here handle themselves and spend the time needed to address every concern a patient has before discharging them."

Marines run for a dream

3d Annual Martin Luther King Run kicks off at Camp Hansen

PFC DAMIAN J. MCGEE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP HANSEN — Thousands of Marines gathered here January 12 for the 3d Annual Martin Luther King Run.

BGen Willie J. Williams, Commanding General, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, led the annual run which is held in conjunction with the national holiday. The Camp Hansen Diversity Awareness Group sponsors the event that features Marines and Sailors from commands islandwide.

For the participants, the run is a way to step into the holiday with a good perspective of what the day really means.

"It's a chance for the base to get together and look around and see the diversity of the Marines here," said GySgt Eric L. Cummings, Motor Transport Staff Noncommissioned Officer In Charge, 3d Medical Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group.

Different viewpoints of Dr. King and the meaning of the holiday named for him lingered in the minds of all the participants as they stepped off into the sunrise.

For some, the run and the holiday were simply a good opportunity to spend time with other service members.

"I like being able to get together with my fellow Marines in an event like this," said LCpl Jeffrey Beehner, Motor Transport Technical Vehicle Operator, Truck Company, Headquarters Battalion, 3d Marine Division. "It's not only about Dr. King's birthday, but also about the equal opportunities available for all people."



"Up in the morning with the Okinawa sun," Marines ran in support of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday. The 3d Annual MLK Run featured thousands of Marines and Sailors from around the island.

Others felt the run offered Marines and Sailors the chance to support the spirit of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

"The event's about unity," said MGySgt Maurice Jones, past president of the Diversity Awareness Group. "It's about us coming together ... and taking one day to celebrate our diversity."

The run was also about the advances society has made for all people. Different races, ages and genders participated in the annual event. The diversity in the runners was symbolic of Dr. King's dream, according to MGySgt Jones.

"When you look out among the Marines you see a crowd as mixed as the ones in attendance at Dr. King's events," MGySgt Jones said.

The MLK run was a great success and while short in overall length, it was long in motivation.

The loop around the camp sparked enthusiasm and a sense of unity for all those who participated.

"This was my first one. I'll be here for three years, and I definitely see myself participating in more of these," said GySgt Cummings.

Those Marines and Sailors who missed the encouraging words from BGen Williams and didn't witness the more than 2,000 people united in the celebration of one man's work also "missed an opportunity to get together and reflect on how far we've truly come," according to GySgt Cummings.

Oki men keep Pacific hoops tournament title

LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Twenty-seven teams from around the Pacific participated in the 10th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Basketball Tournament at the Foster Field House Jan. 11-15.

The men's team from Okinawa, Down Town, fought a seesaw battle with the Yongsan Running Rebels to just edge them out of the title by the score of 100-96. In the women's division, the Yongsan Lady Rebels took first place honors for the fourth year in a row after defeating the Okinawa Lady Rebels.

The first three days of competition featured a round robin format to allow teams to get acquainted with other styles of play. At the end of the three days, 12 men's division teams and seven women's division teams advanced into the double elimination portion of the tournament.

Women's play had the Yokosuka Lady Hawks taking fourth after their defeat by Shokuraku, who took third.

In the men's tournament, the Running Rebels ran over their competi-

tion in the early brackets before running into Down Town.

The two undefeated teams met for their first encounter to determine the victor of the winner's bracket before Down Town sent the Rebels to the runner's-up bracket with a close score of 90-85.

In the men's runner's-up bracket of Pacific teams, Disciples of Christ took 4th overall. The South Korean team, Kusan Wolf Pack, hunted down all the teams except two to fall short with a third place finish.

Finally, it was time for the rematch between the Rebels and Down Town. The game started out with the lead changing hands several times as the crowd of fans grew bigger.

"This was a great match, both teams were amazing," said hoops fan Bernard L. Wade. "The key to winning this game was defense."

The two teams showcased both offense and defense. At the end of the first half it was apparent that with the score separated by only a couple of points, the fans were in for a tight finish.

With the lead changing sides of-

ten the two teams found themselves separated by a mere four points with under 10 seconds left to go. The Rebels in-bounded the ball throwing it the length of the court to make one last ditch effort. With a failed shot by the Rebels, Down Town had claimed the title capping off an outstanding season.

"It feels good knowing you're the best out of all the teams," Kevin O. Cochran, Point Guard, Down Town said. "We were undefeated all year, and had won every tournament Marine Corps Community Services sponsored, but this was our closet game we played all year."

Colonel Paul J. Pisano, Commanding Officer, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base, presented awards for the teams and individual accomplishments.

Saram Goldman, Yokosuka Lady Hawks; Yosmimi Shimabuku and Carlotta Moore from the Shokuraku team; Jeanene Dowell and Heather Carr from the Yongsan Lady Rebels were named to the Women's All Tournament Team and headed by Lady Rebels Coach Richard L. Willis.

Santea McCleave, Kusan Wolf Pack; Andrian Bowie and Kevin Cochran, Down Town; K. Barbour and D. Palmer, Yongsan Running Rebels were headed by Disciples of Christ Coach Tarick Harding, to make up the Men's All Tournament Team.

Most Valuable Player honors went to Philip Moss, Down Town and Tarina Loyd, Yongsan Lady Rebels, who won this award last year.

"This time I had to work a lot harder, play more minutes," said Loyd. "I was tired, but I'm glad to come out with my second MVP."

The MLK Basketball Tournament came to a close after many teams fought hard showing both skill and sportsmanship.

"While there are many ways to honor Martin Luther King, the spirit of competition, whether it's sports, job performance or service rivalry resonates his theme of opportunity," Col Pisano said.

"To me, this tournament commemorates a very important holiday in a fun way while bringing service members together," Carlton E. Hill, Forward, Running Rebels said.



FRANK C. FLOYD

From left to right, Theresa, May, Rhica and Ava are the voices behind the singing group Epic Voices. The group visited Okinawa recently and performed several shows at military camps islandwide to help lift spirits during the holidays.

EPIC VOICES

LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

ON THE VERGE OF DISCOVERY

CAMP FOSTER — For an all-female California quartet who recently wrapped two months of performances for service members throughout Okinawa, their quest for stardom has moved one step closer to reality.

Rhica, Ava, May and Theresa are the harmonious voices behind the group Epic Voices. They believe they're on the verge of discovery with their pop, rhythm and blues style of music.

The four met at a neighborhood church in the San Francisco suburb of Antioch, Calif., and in March 1995, decided to enter a local singing competition. They didn't win, but they remained enthusiastic about singing and their group.

"All of us had been singing since we were real small," May said. "So we all knew how to sing solo, just not as a group."

The group needed a name. The four Filipino-American women chose Epic Voices. "I looked up the word epic in the dictionary and it meant grand and majestic," May said. "And that's kind of the name we wanted for a group."

"We later added the word voices, because people would refer to us as Epic, Epic, Epic, to fill space on their advertisements," Rhica said.

Besides their tour through Okinawa, they have also performed at concerts in California and a date at a San Francisco Giants baseball game where they sang the national anthem.

"We were very nervous," said Ava, of their performance at the Giants' game. "We couldn't hear each other's voices, even though we were all standing right next to each other."

An employee at Marine Corps Community Services saw the show and suggested a tour through Okinawa to entertain service members.

The group accepted the invitation and ended up starring at the islandwide Beating the Blues workshops for Marines to help ease the stress of everyday military life, according to Rhica.

"We had such a good response from people here that we wanted to do something to help lift the spirits of Marines especially during the holiday seasons," Ava said.

"Being on Okinawa has given us a new perspective on what to do with the group, making the shows bigger, brighter and grander," May said. "It has also shown us that it can be done, making it big."

"It's a rush to make people smile," Rhica said. "Everyone on Okinawa is so appreciative, and that one smile shows that all our hard work pays off."

It takes a lot of hard work to be in a singing group, according to May who said the group spends a lot of time practicing harmonies, choreography and developing new material.

"Our motto is work hard and party hard," Rhica

said. "The group is what we eat, breathe and sleep."

They consider themselves a family.

"We hang out a lot," Ava said. "Some guy once told us that 'it would take an act of Congress' to separate us."

The group now looks to explode onto the music scene after enduring their share of ups and downs said May.

"It's easy to get record deals, but it's hard to get a good deal," May said. "We are waiting for a deal that's fair for the group. We want one that gives us artistic input."

Epic Voices plans to increase their audience base by touring next year outside California performing songs from their new album entitled 'Feels so Good,' according to the group.

Whether they make it big or not, the group says the positive feedback from their Okinawa tour has them making plans for a second Okinawa tour in 2001.

"We look for all kinds of acts for MCCA concerts, whether they are rising stars or local talent," Dureil Farnell, Program Director, MCCA Entertainment said. "There is a lot of talent out there and just because a group doesn't have a CD out does not mean they aren't good."

For more information on Epic Voices, upcoming events or to join their fan club, look on their web site at www.epicvoices.com.



AUTOMOBILES/MOTORCYCLES

1991 Mitsubishi Diamante — JCI Jul 02, \$2,000. Davis, 623-6184.
 1993 Mitsubishi Lancer — JCI Aug 02, \$2,600 OBO. 637-5239.
 1990 Toyota Corina — JCI Oct 01, \$1,500 OBO. 098-890-0730.
 1987 Nissan Skyline — JCI Nov 01, \$900 OBO. 636-2312.
 1989 Toyota Corolla — JCI Sep 01, \$800 OBO. Bob, 622-8494.
 1990 Honda Integra — JCI Jun 01, \$2,000 OBO. 1993 Subaru Domingo — JCI Jun 02, \$2,000 OBO. 622-8102.
 1987 Toyota Town Ace — JCI Jul 02, \$1,900. Ed, 637-4061.
 1991 Honda Prelude — JCI Oct 02, \$1,500 OBO. 622-7619.
 1990 Honda Bros — JCI Feb 02, \$1,800 OBO. 633-1016.
 1990 Nissan NX — JCI Oct 01, \$2,100 OBO. 622-5370.
 1986 Nissan Vanette — JCI Feb 02, \$1,800. 637-3331.
 1996 Nissan Gloria — JCI Aug 02, Pat, 090-7471-0750.
 1988 Toyota Corina — JCI May 01, \$475 OBO. Sunny, 637-4114.
 1988 Nissan Cifero — JCI Feb 02, \$2,500 OBO. Rob, 622-8443.
 1993 Nissan Presea — JCI Apr 02, \$1,600. Gonzalez, 637-6035.
 1987 Toyota Surf — JCI Jun 02, \$3,500 OBO. Mandie, 637-5167.
 1997 Honda Magna — \$2,300. 636-3039 or 637-2482.
 1989 Honda Integra — JCI May 01, \$2,300 OBO. 1990 Honda Integra — JCI Dec 01, \$1,900 OBO. 926-1666.
 1989 Toyota Carina — JCI Feb 01, \$500 OBO. Ed, 646-6152.
 1985 Toyota Grande — JCI Jun 02, \$1,000. John, 633-1337.
 1988 Toyota Van — JCI May 01, \$1,000 OBO. 1989 Toyota Carina — JCI Oct 01, \$800 OBO. Both for \$1,400. 646-4171.
 1991 Nissan Maxima — JCI Sep 01, \$2,600. 637-4097.
 1993 Honda CBR — JCI Jan 02, \$1,900 OBO. 1991 Honda Civic — JCI Oct 02, \$1,800 OBO. 964-5932.



MISCELLANEOUS

Misc. — Oak Curio cabinet and oak entertainment center w/27" TV, \$550; oak side table, \$50; (2) book cases, \$80; Evenflo playpen, \$50; car seat, \$20; Barbie jeep, \$175; stroller w/shade, basket, \$40; baby backpack carrier, \$20. Sue, 645-4341 after 5 p.m.
 Carpets — 9x12, forest green, \$45 and light blue, \$50. Jason or Marina, 646-4493 after 5 p.m.
 Misc. — 4x6 rug, \$5; dehumidifier, \$75. (2) folding lawn chairs, \$5 each; white patio chair, \$6; wood picnic table w/four benches, \$50. 622-8102.
 Pet — Free to good home, (2) six-month-old pups. 646-4732.
 Misc. — Medela double breast pump, \$190. 632-3105.
 Misc. — Guinea pigs w/cage, free to good home; transformers 1000w, \$50; 2000w, \$100. 645-8153.
 Misc. — 3-year-old white Pekinese, \$300 OBO; child's bike, \$30. Sonia, 646-4464 or 643-7728.
 Misc. — 17" chrome rims w/tires, \$1,800; (2) 12" subwoofers in box, \$390; 500w two channel car stereo amplifier, \$250; Farad capacitor, \$180; JVC adjustable crossover, \$85; Kenwood equalizer/crossover, \$115; white/chrome steering wheel, \$50; wood/chrome steering wheel, \$35. 637-4097.
 Misc. — Palm IIIx, 4MB RAM, \$175; Forest green metal day bed w/trundle bed, 2 mattresses, \$200. Mark, 645-5165.

Ads appearing in the Okinawa Marine do so as a free service to active duty military their dependents and DoD employees. Ads are restricted to personal property or service of incidental exchange. Ads run on a space-available basis and must be resubmitted each week. The deadline for ads is noon, Fridays, space permitting. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit ads to fit available space. Please include your name and the phone number you wish published. The Okinawa Marine makes every effort to ensure accuracy but assumes no responsibility for services offered in ads. Submit ads by faxing to 645-3803, Mon.-Fri., or send an e-mail to editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

Coming to a theater near you ...



Feature programs and start times are subject to change without notice. **Call theaters in advance to confirm showtimes.** Second evening movies will vary when the program runs longer than 120 minutes.

Courtney (622-9616)
 Fri Thirteen Days (PG13); 7:00
 Sat Bedazzled (PG13); 7:00
 Sun Book of Shadows (R); 7:00
 Mon Closed
 Tue Closed
 Wed Rugrats in Paris (G); 1:00
 Wed Dr. T & the Women (R); 7:00
 Thu Closed

Schwab (625-2333)
 Fri Bedazzled (PG13)
 Sat Hollow Man (R)
 Sat Book of Shadows (R)
 Sun Hollow Man (R)
 Sun Book of Shadows (R)
 Mon Thirteen Days (PG13)
 Tue Thirteen Days (PG13)
 Wed Lucky Numbers (R)
 Thu The Contender (R)
 Call Schwab for start times

Hansen (623-4564)
 Fri What Women Want (PG13)
 Sat What Women Want (PG13)
 Sun Bedazzled (PG13)
 Sun Lucky Numbers (R)

Mon The Contender (R)
 Tue The Contender (R)
 Wed Woman On Top (R)
 Thu Woman On Top (R)

Call Hansen for start times

Futenma (636-3890)
 Fri Pay It Forward (PG13); 7:30
 Sat Dr. T & the Women (R); 6:00
 Sun Book of Shadows (R); 6:00
 Mon Miss Congeniality (PG13); 7:30
 Tue Closed
 Wed Cast Away (PG13); 7:30
 Thu Closed

Keystone (634-1869)
 Fri Miss Congeniality (PG13); 6:30
 Fri Book of Shadows (R); 9:30
 Sat Rugrats in Paris (G); 1:00
 Sat Miss Congeniality (PG13); 5:30
 Sat Thirteen Days (PG13); 5:30
 Sun Rugrats in Paris (PG); 2:00
 Sun Thirteen Days (PG13); 5:30, 9:00
 Mon Woman On Top (R); 7:00

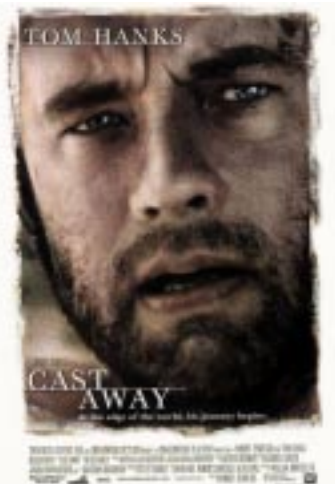
Mon Woman On Top (R); 7:00
 Tue Bedazzled (PG13); 7:00
 Wed Meet the Parents (PG13); 7:00
 Thu Pay It Forward (PG13); 7:00

Butler (645-3465)
 Fri Cast Away (PG13); 7:00, 10:00
 Sat 102 Dalmations (G); 1:00, 4:00
 Sat Cast Away (PG13); 7:00, 10:00
 Sun 102 Dalmations (G); 1:00, 4:00
 Sun Cast Away (PG13); 7:00
 Mon Woman On Top (R); 7:00
 Tue Woman On Top (R); 7:00
 Wed The Contender (R); 7:00
 Thu Thirteen Days (PG13); 7:00

Kinser (637-2177)
 Fri Book of Shadows (R); 7:00
 Sat Lucky Numbers (R); 3:00
 Sat Woman On Top (R); 7:00, 11:30
 Sun The Contender (R); 7:00
 Mon Closed
 Tue Lucky Numbers (R); 7:00
 Wed Thirteen Days (PG13); 7:00
 Thu Woman On Top (R); 7:00



Check Keystone and Futenma Theater listings for show times.



Check Butler and Futenma Theater listings for show times.